CURRICULUM

INSTITUTIONAL PRACTICES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOL CULTURE

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ELEMENTS OF A GLOBAL SCHOOL

Young people do not become global citizens by chance; their dispositions, knowledge, and skills are deliberately cultivated by global schools. The key to creating a globally-minded and culturally proficient school is for educators to be intentional and systemic about bringing a global lens to their school's practices.

Global schools provide opportunities across the K-12 years to **build** the **global competency**, **cultural responsiveness**, and **skills** that citizens need to thrive and contribute in today's interconnected world.

This happens when educators attend to four domains of action.

CURRICULUM

Global Schools apply a global lens across grade levels and subjects, and build permeability between their school and the wider world. The curriculum addresses questions of power and equity, and nurtures students' capacity for critical thinking about the world.

INSTITUTIONAL PRACTICES

Global Schools advance global and cultural learning through their mission statements, structures, assessment practices, and partnerships.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Global Schools build their staff's capacity to offer a world-class, globally-focused education through content-rich professional development that respects educators' expertise.

SCHOOL CULTURE

Global Schools reinforce their global and inclusive values through the broader school culture, activities, and physical environment. Student and community voices inform these endeavors.

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FOUR DOMAINS OF ACTION

CURRICULUM

- Curriculum addresses global and multicultural content and issues in all subjects and across grade levels
- Classroom practices value and support multilingualism for all students
- Teaching and learning programs build inquiry and skills that support global learning
- Curriculum blends conceptual learning and real-world application

INSTITUTIONAL PRACTICES

- Vision and mission embrace global citizenship
- Structures and systems sustain global and cultural competence
- Reflection and assessment practices incorporate global and cultural competence criteria
- Partnerships connect the school to diverse communities, local and distant

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Professional development prioritizes global content and skills
- Professional development supports cultural awareness and self-reflection
- School embraces teacher-driven collaborative professional development

SCHOOL CULTURE

- Physical environment of the school communicates global and inclusive values
- Community-building efforts show global and cultural competence
- Student activities reflect student voice, choice, and diversity

EXEMPLARY PRACTICES

CURRICULUM

Curriculum addresses global and multicultural content and issues in all subjects and across grade levels.

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- A core course on Global Studies exposes students to global issues and perspectives
- Classroom resources are culturally inclusive and global in content
- World history courses address all world regions
- U.S. history is contextualized, compared, and connected to the world
- STEM subjects are infused with global issues, data, and expertise
- Area Studies, Ethnic Studies, Global Issues, or other globally-themed courses are offered
- Library collects diverse books and resources and promotes their use
- Arts courses (Art, Music, Drama, Writing) expose students to world cultures
- Targeted events allow for deeper treatment of global topics (e.g. School-wide Read, Community Learning Forum)
- Students can see their identities reflected in the curriculum
- Students have opportunities to learn about and empathize with others
- Media literacy is integrated across subjects and addresses bias and stereotyping

Curriculur programs value and support multilingualism for all students.

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- Schools have access to world languages beginning in elementary classrooms and continuing through advanced levels
- Students have access to two-way bilingual immersion programs
- District offers a variety of appropriate options for English Learners
- World language curricula emphasize the teaching of culture(s)
- World language skills that students acquire at home are valued as assets

Teaching and learning approaches build inquiry and skills that support global learning.

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- Students have opportunities for interdisciplinary inquiry and study, especially project- and problem-based learning
- Students demonstrate depth of knowledge on a chosen topic through global benchmark/capstone projects
- Students have opportunities to collaborate and problem-solve in group settings
- Curriculum is flexible enough to accommodate students' curiosity and questions

Curriculum blends conceptual learning and real-world application.

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- Students have opportunities to engage in the community and to reflect on their experiences, including action projects and service learning
- Students have opportunities to take action that grows out of their investigation of local, national and global problems
- Classrooms build virtual connections with classrooms, organizations, or experts abroad
- Students have access to international travel/hosting/exchanges
- Travel is part of a continuum with pre- and post-travel learning
- Domestic travel experiences and field trips build an understanding of differences

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INSTITUTIONAL PRACTICES

Vision and mission embrace global citizenship

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- School aligns mission and vision statements with a global orientation
- School cultivates a shared understanding of terms and definitions in school's global goals

Structures and systems sustain global and cultural competence

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- School creates global leadership roles or hybrid roles with sustainable funding
- School develops mechanisms to celebrate and then scale best global teaching practices
- School-wide programs or initiatives address inclusion, equity, and current issues
- Human Resources (hiring) criteria include cultural competency and a globally-minded disposition
- School offers explicit global credentialing for students, such as a global certificate program
- School supports formation of faculty/parent/community diversity committees with clear goals
- School invests in technological infrastructure to support global learning and connections

Reflection and assessment practices incorporate global and cultural competence criteria

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- School conducts an inventory or assessment of current global practices
- Teacher evaluations and student common assessments integrate global content and skills
- School conducts a community input and asset survey to identify and engage the "global assets" within the community, including students

Partnerships connect the school to diverse communities, local and distant

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- School develops meaningful community partnerships with nonprofits, universities, businesses, foundations, advocates and/or key cultural, religious, or political leaders
- Community advisory boards reflect the diversity of parents and local communities
- School cultivates sustained relationships with schools abroad

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional development prioritizes global content and skills

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- All school personnel have access to comprehensive global professional development
- Staff have opportunities for global experiences, such as travel, exchanges, and virtual interactions

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Professional development supports cultural awareness and self-reflection

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- All school personnel engage in professional development on cultural responsiveness
- Staff have access to professional development on intercultural communication
- Staff have access to professional development for how to navigate difficult conversations about bias, power, and conflict in school contexts

School embraces teacher-driven collaborative professional development

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- School provides joint planning time for inter-departmental or inter-grade initiatives
- Educators connect and network with the larger global education field
- Educators engage in collaborative, teacher-led approaches to global learning, such as professional learning communities
- Staff reflect in an ongoing way on whole-school and individual progress

SCHOOL CULTURE

Physical environment of the school communicates global and inclusive values

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- Physical spaces of school and school services communicate global and cultural inclusion – e.g. school symbols, cafeteria menus, multilingual signage, etc.
- Library/Media Center and other school spaces showcase multicultural and global materials
- School makes translation services available whenever possible
- School publicity – i.e. articles, social media, and press releases – foregrounds global learning and global citizenship
- School facilities, including bathrooms, locker rooms, and prayer or reflection spaces, are safe and affirming for students of all identities
- School has thoughtful policies on how holidays will or will not be celebrated, considering culturally responsive perspectives

Community-building efforts show global and cultural competence

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- Schools employ culturally-appropriate practices to engage all families
- School-wide global or cultural events across the year build both cultural appreciation and an understanding of differences in perspectives and practices
- School-home communications are two-way and accessible to all families
- Forums exist for honest dialogue about race, culture and identity among all school constituents
- Peer mentoring or other leadership programs provide opportunities for all students, including immigrants or English Learners, to participate
- School supports and affirms the importance of student affinity groups relating to culture, race, language, gender, sexual orientation or other aspects of identity
- School values and protects free speech and expression, including that of students
- Anti-bullying work acknowledges that prejudice is a factor that may lead to bullying

Student activities reflect student voice, choice, and diversity

Evidence of exemplary practice may include:

- Afterschool offerings for elementary students include global and multicultural content
- Student activities have equitable and inclusive environments
- Globally-themed extracurricular clubs and activities are available to secondary students

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